103D CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

S. 1472

To provide financial assistance to rural eligible local educational agencies to improve rural education, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 7), 1993

Mr. Simon (for himself, Mr. Wellstone, and Mr. Jeffords) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources

A BILL

To provide financial assistance to rural eligible local educational agencies to improve rural education, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 5 "Rural Schools of America (RSA) Act of 1993".
- 6 (b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents is
- 7 as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
 - Sec. 2. Findings.
 - Sec. 3. Statement of purpose.

- Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Allotment of funds.
- Sec. 103. Application.
- Sec. 104. Planning period.
- Sec. 105. Uses of funds.
- Sec. 106. Accountability.
- Sec. 107. Incentive awards to exemplary programs.
- Sec. 108. Regulatory assessment.
- Sec. 109. Local advisory group.

TITLE II—SCHOOL BUILDING REPAIR AND RENOVATION

- Sec. 201. Purpose; authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 202. Allotment of funds.
- Sec. 203. Application.
- Sec. 204. Repair and renovation.
- Sec. 205. Environment and safety.
- Sec. 206. Waiver.
- Sec. 207. Application of the Davis-Bacon Act.

TITLE III—EVALUATION OF RESULTS

- Sec. 301. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 302. Establishment; operation; uses of funds.
- Sec. 303. Local rural school evaluation.
- Sec. 304. Local applications.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Interagency Council on Rural Schools.
- Sec. 402. White House Conference on Rural Education.
- Sec. 403. Federal funds to supplement not supplant non-Federal funds.
- Sec. 404. Definitions.

1 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

- 2 The Congress finds that—
- 3 (1) the ability of America's rural school systems
- 4 to meet the National Education Goals will contribute
- 5 to the economic competitiveness and academic stand-
- 6 ing of the Nation in the world community;
- 7 (2) the quality of public education in the rural
- 8 areas of the Nation has a direct effect on the eco-
- 9 nomic development of the rural communities of the
- 10 Nation;

- 1 (3) the success of rural schools in boosting the 2 achievement of minority youth attending such 3 schools will determine the ability of the Nation to 4 close the gap between the "haves and have-nots" in 5 society;
 - (4) the cost to America's businesses to provide remedial education to secondary school graduates is approximately \$21,000,000,000 per year;
 - (5) approximately one-third of the Nation's work force will be minority by the year 2000;
 - (6) rural schools enroll a disproportionately large share of the Nation's poor and "at-risk" youth;
 - (7) approximately 60 percent of the Nation's public school districts are rural with a population of less than 2,500;
 - (8) approximately one out of every four of America's rural children are living below the poverty line:
 - (9) the academic performance of students in the average rural school system is below that of students in most other suburban school systems;
 - (10) rural preschoolers have less access to early childhood development programs than other children;

| 1 | (11) shortages of teachers for rural school sys- |
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| 2 | tems is greater than in other kinds of school sys- |
| 3 | tems; |
| 4 | (12) a declining number of rural secondary |
| 5 | school graduates are pursuing postsecondary edu- |
| 6 | cation opportunities; |
| 7 | (13) the average age of rural public school |
| 8 | buildings is more than 45 years old and such build- |
| 9 | ings are often in serious disrepair, creating poor and |
| 10 | demoralizing working and learning conditions; |
| 11 | (14) solving the challenges facing the Nation's |
| 12 | rural schools will require the concerted and collabo- |
| 13 | rative efforts of all levels of government and all sec- |
| 14 | tors of the community; |
| 15 | (15) State and Federal funding of rural schools |
| 16 | has not adequately reflected need; and |
| 17 | (16) Federal funding that is well targeted, flexi- |
| 18 | ble and accountable would contribute significantly to |
| 19 | addressing the comprehensive needs of rural schools. |
| 20 | SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE. |
| 21 | It is the purpose of this Act to provide financial as- |
| 22 | sistance for those rural schools most in need to encourage |
| 23 | the comprehensive restructuring of America's rural |
| 24 | schools, the appropriate use of telecommunications tech- |

25 nologies for learning and to support innovative programs

| 1 | which improve performance through programs and |
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| 2 | projects designed to— |
| 3 | (1) assist rural schools in meeting National |
| 4 | Education Goals; |
| 5 | (2) encourage rural schools to engage in school |
| 6 | reform; |
| 7 | (3) develop pilot projects that experiment with |
| 8 | innovative ways to teach rural public school children |
| 9 | more effectively; |
| 10 | (4) improve the educational and social well |
| 11 | being of rural public school children; |
| 12 | (5) close the achievement gap between children |
| 13 | attending rural schools and other children, while im- |
| 14 | proving the achievement level of all children nation- |
| 15 | ally; |
| 16 | (6) renovate and repair aging rural school |
| 17 | buildings and facilities; |
| 18 | (7) conduct coordinated research on rural edu- |
| 19 | cation problems, solutions, promising practices, and |
| 20 | distance learning technologies; |
| 21 | (8) improve the Nation's global economic and |
| 22 | educational competitiveness by improving the Na- |
| 23 | tion's rural schools; |

| 1 | (9) encourage community, parental and busi- |
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| 2 | ness collaboration in the improvement of rural |
| 3 | schools; |
| 4 | (10) review regulations the simplification of |
| 5 | which might improve the achievement of rural school |
| 6 | children; |
| 7 | (11) encourage rural school consortia for the |
| 8 | purpose of increasing efficiency and course offerings; |
| 9 | (12) encourage a positive role for rural public |
| 10 | schools in local rural entrepreneurship and the iden- |
| 11 | tification of rural community economic development |
| 12 | opportunities; |
| 13 | (13) encourage "community as school" con- |
| 14 | cepts, which include the role public schools can play |
| 15 | to assist with rural community economic revitaliza- |
| 16 | tion; and |
| 17 | (14) provide meaningful inservice opportunities |
| 18 | for rural public school teachers. |
| 19 | TITLE I—RURAL SCHOOL |
| 20 | IMPROVEMENT |
| 21 | SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. |
| 22 | There are authorized to be appropriated |
| 23 | \$1,500,000,000 for 1994 and such sums as may be nec- |
| 24 | essary for each of the fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, |
| 25 | 1999, and 2000 to carry out the provisions of this title. |

SEC. 102. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.

- 2 (a) RESERVATION.—From the amount appropriated or otherwise made available to carry out the provisions of this title for any fiscal year after the first fiscal year in which the Secretary awards allotments to State educational agencies under this title, the Secretary shall reserve 5 percent of such funds to provide competitive awards in accordance with section 107.
 - (b) ALLOTMENTS.—

(1) Federal allot to each State educational agency with an approved application in each fiscal year an amount which bears the same relationship to such funds as the amount all rural eligible local educational agencies with approved applications in the State were allocated under chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the preceding fiscal year bears to the total amount received under such chapter in such preceding fiscal year by all rural eligible local educational agencies with approved applications in all States.

(2) State allotment.—

(A) RESERVATION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—From amounts received pursuant to paragraph (1), each State educational agency

1 may reserve not more than 1 percent of such 2 amount for administrative expenses.

- (B) RESERVATION FOR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND NONPROFIT PARTNER-SHIPS.—From amounts received under paragraph (1) for any fiscal year, each State educational agency shall reserve not more than 5 percent to make as many grants as practicable for activities in accordance with the National Education Goals and described in section 105 to—
 - (i) community-based organizations; or
 - (ii) nonprofit partnerships among rural eligible local educational agencies, local colleges or universities, private sector businesses, or any combination thereof, that enter into a written agreement with at least one rural eligible local educational agency.
- (C) FORMULA.—From the remainder of amounts received pursuant to paragraph (1) and not reserved pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) in each fiscal year, each State educational agency shall allot to each rural eligible local educational agency with an approved ap-

plication an amount which bears the same rela-1 2 tionship to such funds as the amount such rural eligible local educational agency was allocated 3 4 under chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the preceding fiscal year bears to the total amount 6 7 received under such chapter in such preceding fiscal year by all rural eligible local educational 8 agencies with approved applications in the 9 10 State.

- (D) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 5 percent of any rural eligible local educational agency's allotment under this subsection may be used for administrative costs.
- 15 (c) REALLOTMENT.—Any amounts available for real-16 lotment pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) shall be real-17 lotted in the same manner as the original allotments were 18 made.

19 SEC. 103. APPLICATION.

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- 20 (a) STATE APPLICATION.—
- 21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational 22 agency desiring to receive an allotment in any fiscal 23 year to carry out the provisions of this title shall 24 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,

| 1 | in such manner, and accompanied by such informa- |
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| 2 | tion as the Secretary may reasonably require. |
| 3 | (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted |
| 4 | pursuant to paragraph (1) shall— |
| 5 | (A) describe the State's approach to im- |
| 6 | proving education in rural schools; |
| 7 | (B) contain such information as the Sec- |
| 8 | retary may reasonably require in order to make |
| 9 | the allotment described in section $102(b)(1)$ |
| 10 | and |
| 11 | (C) contain such other information or as- |
| 12 | surances as the Secretary determines necessary |
| 13 | to ensure compliance with the provisions of this |
| 14 | title. |
| 15 | (b) Local Application.— |
| 16 | (1) IN GENERAL.—Any rural eligible local edu- |
| 17 | cational agency desiring to receive an allotment to |
| 18 | carry out the provisions of this title, shall— |
| 19 | (A) develop and prepare an application |
| 20 | with the local advisory group in accordance with |
| 21 | section 109 of this Act; and |
| 22 | (B) submit the application described in |
| 23 | subparagraph (A) to the State educational |
| 24 | agency at such time, in such manner and ac- |

| 1 | companied by such information as the State |
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| 2 | educational agency may reasonably require. |
| 3 | (2) Contents of local educational agen- |
| 4 | CY APPLICATION.—Each application submitted by a |
| 5 | rural eligible local educational agency pursuant to |
| 6 | paragraph (1) shall include a description of— |
| 7 | (A) the community served by the rural eli- |
| 8 | gible local educational agency and the effects of |
| 9 | the community on the educational conditions |
| 10 | within the schools served by the rural eligible |
| 11 | local educational agency; |
| 12 | (B) the collaboration in program planning |
| 13 | with the local advisory group described in sec- |
| 14 | tion 109; |
| 15 | (C) the goals selected by the rural eligible |
| 16 | local educational agency pursuant to section |
| 17 | 106(b), the rationale for choosing such goals |
| 18 | over others, and a description of whether the |
| 19 | goals selected differ between elementary and |
| 20 | secondary schools in the district; |
| 21 | (D) how funds received under this title will |
| 22 | be used to meet the National Educational Goals |
| 23 | selected by the rural eligible local educational |
| 24 | agency: |

| 1 | (E) how promising or successful models or |
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| 2 | programs will be replicated in designing activi- |
| 3 | ties assisted under this title; |
| 4 | (F) which federally funded programs and |
| 5 | activities are being expanded under this title; |
| 6 | and |
| 7 | (G) the statistical indicators and other cri- |
| 8 | teria that the rural eligible local educational |
| 9 | agency will use to measure progress toward |
| 10 | meeting National Education Goals, and a de- |
| 11 | scription of what the local educational agency |
| 12 | has done to ensure that any assessments used |
| 13 | to measure such progress will not have a nega- |
| 14 | tive effect on minority or language minority |
| 15 | students. |
| 16 | (3) DURATION.—Except as provided in section |
| 17 | 106, the application described in paragraph (1) may |
| 18 | be for a period of not more than 3 years. |
| 19 | (c) Community-Based Organizations and Non- |
| 20 | PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS.—Any community-based organiza- |
| 21 | tion or nonprofit partnership described in section |
| 22 | 102(b)(2)(B) desiring to receive a grant from a State edu- |
| 23 | cational agency pursuant to such section shall— |
| 24 | (1) prepare and submit an application to the |
| 25 | State educational agency; |

- 1 (2) describe in the application the collaborative 2 efforts undertaken with a rural eligible local edu-3 cational agency in designing a program to meet the 4 purposes of the Act; and
- (3) describe in the application how funds will be used to help meet the education goals selected by a rural eligible local educational agency pursuant to subsection (b) of this section.

9 SEC. 104. PLANNING PERIOD.

Any rural eligible local educational agency requiring additional planning efforts to meet the provisions of this title may use the first 3 months of the initial program year for planning purposes, subject to approval by the State educational agency, except that not more than 10 percent of the first year's allotment shall be used for such purposes. A written report of the results of the plan shall be submitted to the State educational agency.

18 SEC. 105. USES OF FUNDS.

- 19 (a) In General.—Funds allotted under section
- 20 102(b)(2) shall be used by rural eligible local educational
- 21 agencies, or community-based organizations or nonprofit
- 22 partnerships described in section 102(b)(2)(B), to meet
- 23 National Education Goals through programs designed
- 24 to—

| 1 | (1) increase the academic achievement of rural |
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| 2 | school children to at least the national average, in- |
| 3 | cluding such education reform initiatives as— |
| 4 | (A) effective schools programs; |
| 5 | (B) tutoring, mentoring, and other activi- |
| 6 | ties to improve academic achievement directly; |
| 7 | (C) supplementary academic instruction; |
| 8 | (D) efforts to improve problem-solving and |
| 9 | higher-order critical thinking skills; |
| 10 | (E) programs to increase student motiva- |
| 11 | tion for learning; |
| 12 | (F) efforts to lengthen the school day, |
| 13 | school year or reduce class sizes; and |
| 14 | (G) encouraging the establishment of rural |
| 15 | school consortia to increase efficiency and |
| 16 | course offerings; |
| 17 | (2) ensure the readiness of all rural children for |
| 18 | school, including— |
| 19 | (A) full workday, full calendar-year com- |
| 20 | prehensive early childhood development pro- |
| 21 | grams; |
| 22 | (B) parenting classes, including parenting |
| 23 | classes for teenage parents, and parent involve- |
| 24 | ment activities; |

| 1 | (C) activities designed to coordinate pre- |
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| 2 | kindergarten and child care programs; |
| 3 | (D) efforts to integrate developmentally |
| 4 | appropriate prekindergarten services into the |
| 5 | overall school program; |
| 6 | (E) improving the skills of early childhood |
| 7 | education staff and standards for programs; |
| 8 | (F) collaborative efforts with health and |
| 9 | social service agencies to provide comprehensive |
| 10 | services and to facilitate the transition from |
| 11 | home to school; |
| 12 | (G) establishment of comprehensive child |
| 13 | care centers in secondary schools for student- |
| 14 | parents and their children; and |
| 15 | (H) augmenting early childhood develop- |
| 16 | ment programs to meet the special educational |
| 17 | and cultural needs of limited-English proficient |
| 18 | and migrant preschool children; |
| 19 | (3) increase the graduation rates of rural stu- |
| 20 | dents to at least the national average, including— |
| 21 | (A) dropout prevention activities and sup- |
| 22 | port services for students at-risk of dropping |
| 23 | out of school; |

| 1 | (B) re-entry, outreach and support activi- |
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| 2 | ties to recruit students who have dropped out of |
| 3 | school to return to school; |
| 4 | (C) development of systemwide policies and |
| 5 | practices that encourage students to stay in |
| 6 | school; |
| 7 | (D) efforts to provide individualized stu- |
| 8 | dent support; |
| 9 | (E) collaborative activities between schools, |
| 10 | parents, community groups, agencies and insti- |
| 11 | tutions of higher education aimed at preventing |
| 12 | individuals from dropping out of school; |
| 13 | (F) programs to increase student attend- |
| 14 | ance; and |
| 15 | (G) alternative programs for students, es- |
| 16 | pecially bilingual, special education and migrant |
| 17 | students, who have dropped out of school or are |
| 18 | at-risk of dropping out of school; |
| 19 | (4) prepare rural school graduates to enter |
| 20 | higher education, pursue careers and exercise their |
| 21 | responsibilities as citizens, including— |
| 22 | (A) activities designed to increase the |
| 23 | number and percentages of students, enrolling |
| 24 | in postsecondary educational institutions after |
| 25 | graduation from secondary schools; |

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| 1 | (B) in-school youth employment, vocational |
| 2 | education, and career education programs that |
| 3 | improve the transition from school to work; |
| 4 | (C) activities designed in collaboration with |
| 5 | colleges and universities to assist rural school |
| 6 | graduates in completing higher education; |
| 7 | (D) activities designed in conjunction with |
| 8 | community colleges to provide a kindergarten |
| 9 | through grade 14 experience for rural school |
| 10 | secondary school students; |
| 11 | (E) efforts to increase voter registration |
| 12 | among eligible secondary school students at- |
| 13 | tending schools served by rural eligible local |
| 14 | educational agencies; |
| 15 | (F) activities designed to promote commu- |
| 16 | nity service and volunteerism among students, |
| 17 | parents, teachers, and the community; |
| 18 | (G) civic education, law-related education |
| 19 | and other programs designed to enhance re- |
| 20 | sponsible citizenship and understanding of the |
| 21 | political process; and |
| 22 | (H) encouraging a positive role for rural |
| 23 | public schools in local rural entrepreneurship |
| 24 | and the identification of rural community eco- |
| | |

nomic development opportunities;

| 1 | (5) recruit and retain qualified teachers, includ- |
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| 2 | ing— |
| 3 | (A) school-based management projects and |
| 4 | activities; |
| 5 | (B) programs designed to increase the sta- |
| 6 | tus of the teaching profession; |
| 7 | (C) alternative routes to certification for |
| 8 | qualified individuals from business, the military |
| 9 | and other fields; |
| 10 | (D) efforts to recruit and retain teachers |
| 11 | in critical shortage areas, including early child- |
| 12 | hood teachers, mathematics and science teach- |
| 13 | ers, foreign language teachers, and special edu- |
| 14 | cation and bilingual teachers; |
| 15 | (E) upgrading the skills of existing class- |
| 16 | room teachers through the use of year-round, |
| 17 | systematic, comprehensive inservice training |
| 18 | programs; |
| 19 | (F) upgrading the skills of teacher aides |
| 20 | and paraprofessionals to assist such individuals |
| 21 | in becoming certified teachers; |
| 22 | (G) efforts specifically designed to increase |
| 23 | the number of minority teachers in rural |
| 24 | schools; |

| 1 | (H) programs designed to encourage par- |
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| 2 | ents and students to enter the teaching profes- |
| 3 | sion; |
| 4 | (I) incentives for teachers to work in rural |
| 5 | schools; |
| 6 | (J) collaborative activities with colleges |
| 7 | and universities to revise and upgrade teacher |
| 8 | training programs to meet the needs of rural |
| 9 | school students; and |
| 10 | (K) training activities for the purpose of |
| 11 | incorporating distance learning technologies; or |
| 12 | (6) decrease the use of drugs and alcohol |
| 13 | among rural students, and to enhance the physical |
| 14 | and emotional health of such students, including— |
| 15 | (A) activities designed to improve the self- |
| 16 | esteem and self-worth of rural students; |
| 17 | (B) the provision of health care services |
| 18 | and other social services and the coordination of |
| 19 | such services with other health care providers; |
| 20 | (C) programs designed to improve safety |
| 21 | and discipline and reduce in-school violence and |
| 22 | vandalism; |
| 23 | (D) activities that begin in the early |
| 24 | grades and are designed to prevent drug and al- |
| 25 | cohol abuse and smoking among students: |

| 1 | (E) collaborative activities with other agen- |
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| 2 | cies, businesses, and community groups; |
| 3 | (F) efforts to enhance health education |
| 4 | and nutrition education; and |
| 5 | (G) alternative schools, and schools-within- |
| 6 | schools programs, including bilingual, migrant |
| 7 | and special education programs for students |
| 8 | with special needs. |
| 9 | (b) Special Rule.—Funds allotted under section |
| 10 | 102(b)(2) may be used by rural eligible local educational |
| 11 | agencies, or community-based organizations or nonprofit |
| 12 | partnerships, described in section $102(b)(2)(B)$, for the |
| 13 | planning, development, operation, or expansion of pro- |
| 14 | grams and activities which are designed to assist rural |
| 15 | schools in meeting National Education Goals, and may |
| 16 | include— |
| 17 | (1) training of teachers and other educational |
| 18 | personnel in subject areas, or instructional tech- |
| 19 | nology and methods that would improve the delivery |
| 20 | of services in rural settings in any of the National |
| 21 | Education Goal areas, including staff development |
| 22 | efforts which emphasize multicultural, gender and |
| 23 | disability bias-free curricula; |
| 24 | (2) coordination and collaboration with other |
| 25 | rural agencies, including State rural development |

- 1 councils, child care organizations, universities or the 2 private sector;
 - (3) parental involvement and outreach efforts and other activities designed to enhance parental encouragement of student learning;
 - (4) guidance counseling, psychological, social work, and other support services that contribute to progress in achieving National Education Goals;
 - (5) efforts to acquire and improve access to educational technology, including distance learning technologies;
 - (6) programs to serve homeless children, children in schools undergoing desegregation, immigrants, migrants, or other highly mobile populations, even if such individuals do not attend a rural project school assisted under this title;
 - (7) efforts to improve, reform and strengthen the curriculum, especially efforts to enhance critical thinking skills among rural students, and efforts to coordinate services across grade levels; and
- 21 (8) other activities designed to assist in achiev-22 ing the National Education Goals.
- 23 (c) PRIORITY.—Each local educational agency sub-24 mitting an application under this section shall give priority 25 in designing the program assisted under this title to activi-

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- 1 ties that replicate successful efforts in other local edu-
- 2 cational agencies or expand successful programs within
- 3 the rural eligible local educational agency.

4 SEC. 106. ACCOUNTABILITY.

- 5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The State educational agency
- 6 may award an allotment under this title to a rural eligible
- 7 local educational agency to enable such an agency to oper-
- 8 ate a program under this title for a period of not more
- 9 than 3 years. If a rural eligible local educational agency
- 10 receiving an allotment under this title meets the account-
- 11 ability requirements described in subsection (b) at the end
- 12 of 3 years and the requirements described in subsection
- 13 (c) at the end of each year, as determined by the State
- 14 educational agency, such local educational agency shall be
- 15 eligible to continue the project with funds under this title
- 16 for an additional 3 years if such local educational agency
- 17 so desires.
- 18 (b) REQUIREMENTS TO MOVE TOWARD NATIONAL
- 19 EDUCATION GOALS.—
- 20 (1) Program continuation.—If, after 3 years
- of receiving an allotment under this title, a rural eli-
- gible local educational agency is able to demonstrate
- to the satisfaction of the State educational agency
- that such rural eligible local educational agency has
- increased the achievement within the lowest 2 quar-

- tiles of students in schools assisted under this title as measured by the statistical indicators and other criteria specified in the application in comparison to the year prior to the initiation of the project, then such agency shall be eligible to continue the project with funds under this title for an additional 3 years upon reapplication under section 103.
 - (2) Special rule.—If, after 3 years of receiving an allotment under this title, a rural eligible local educational agency is able to demonstrate progress on meeting at least 3 other National Education Goals as measured by the criteria described in paragraph (3), then such agency shall be deemed to have met the requirements of paragraph (1) so long as the average achievement level of the schools assisted under this title did not decline in any of the 3 previous school years.
 - (3) Criteria.—For purposes of paragraph (2), the criteria are:
 - (A) The number or percentage of preschool children served by the rural eligible local educational agency is greater than the average such number or percentage in the 3 previous school years.

- 1 (B) The secondary school graduation rate 2 in the rural eligible local educational agency is 3 greater than the average such rate for the 3 4 previous school years.
 - (C) The percentage of secondary school graduates in the rural eligible local educational agency enrolled in postsecondary education is greater than such percentage for the 3 previous school years.
 - (D) The incidence of discipline, drug-related or in-school crime in the rural eligible local educational agency is less than the average such incidence in the 3 previous school years.

(c) COLLECTION OF DATA AND CERTIFICATION.—

(1) In General.—Each rural eligible local educational agency, community-based organizations or nonprofit partnerships described in section 102(b)(2)(B), receiving assistance under this title shall annually collect and submit to the State educational agency data based on the statistical indicators and other criteria described in the application submitted by such rural eligible local educational agency for the purposes of monitoring progress in achieving the National Education Goals in accordance with paragraph (2). Such data shall include

- multiple measures or indicators of each variable, and may take into consideration the mobility of students in the schools served under this title or other special factors.
 - (2) CERTIFICATION.—Each rural eligible local educational agency receiving an allotment pursuant to section 102(b)(2) shall annually certify to the State educational agency that such rural eligible local educational agency has—
- 10 (A) complied with the provisions of this 11 subsection; and
- 12 (B) made progress toward meeting Na-13 tional Education Goals and the goals described 14 in section 103(b)(2)(D).

15 SEC. 107. INCENTIVE AWARDS TO EXEMPLARY PROGRAMS.

- 16 From amounts reserved pursuant to section 102(a)
- 17 or otherwise made available, the Secretary is authorized
- 18 to make competitive awards to rural eligible local edu-
- 19 cational agencies to enable such agencies to provide assist-
- 20 ance to individual schools participating in a program as-
- 21 sisted under this title which demonstrate to the satisfac-
- 22 tion of the Secretary at least 3 of the following:
- 23 (1) Unusual or exemplary progress in achieving
- the National Education Goals through programs de-
- scribed in section 105.

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- 1 (2) Exemplary or unusually effective collabo-2 rative arrangements between the schools, commu-3 nity-based organizations, agencies, parent groups, 4 colleges and businesses.
- 5 (3) Identification, review and removal of poten-6 tial barriers to student performance in the National 7 Education Goal areas, such as suspensions and ex-8 pulsions, in-grade retentions, ability grouping, and 9 lack of access to course offerings, and other such 10 barriers.

11 SEC. 108. REGULATORY ASSESSMENT.

- 12 (a) REPORT ON RURAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—In order
- 13 to assist rural eligible local educational agencies under this
- 14 Act in improving the performance of the school children
- 15 enrolled in the schools served by such agencies, the Sec-
- 16 retary shall, not later than January 1, 1995, prepare a
- 17 report on the impact of Federal regulations, guidelines
- 18 and policies on rural public schools.
- 19 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—The report shall ana-
- 20 lyze the impact of Federal legal, regulatory, policy and or-
- 21 ganizational requirements on the time and resources that
- 22 rural eligible local educational agencies assisted under this
- 23 Act have for educating students, including fiscal resources,
- 24 staff time, facilities, instructional equipment, and services.
- 25 The report shall make recommendations on how best to

- 1 simplify Federal legal, regulatory, policy and organiza-
- 2 tional requirements so that more resources can be devoted
- 3 to improving rural school performance. The report shall
- 4 also identify the regulations whose waiver might be used
- 5 as incentives or rewards for unusual progress toward
- 6 meeting National Education Goals.
- 7 (c) Specific Issues for Analysis.—In preparing
- 8 the report required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall
- 9 analyze—
- 10 (1) the effect of regulatory requirements on
- local program flexibility and management within
- rural eligible local educational agencies;
- 13 (2) the effect of regulatory requirements on the
- size, cost and composition of administrative practices
- within rural eligible local educational agencies;
- 16 (3) the extent to which regulatory requirements
- are duplicative or contradictory;
- 18 (4) the amount of time and resources that
- school administrators and teachers must spend re-
- sponding to data requests and reporting require-
- 21 ments pursuant to Federal law;
- 22 (5) the extent to which regulatory requirements
- 23 are related to instructional rather than
- 24 noninstructional practices in rural eligible local edu-
- cational agencies;

| 1 | (6) the relationship between specific regulatory |
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| 2 | requirements and the educational performance of |
| 3 | rural students; and |
| 4 | (7) how the waiver or simplification of regu- |
| 5 | latory requirements could enhance the performance |
| 6 | of rural school children and the progress of rural |
| 7 | schools in meeting National Education Goals. |
| 8 | (d) Sample Data.—The Secretary may, in develop- |
| 9 | ing the report described in subsection (a), use appropriate |
| 10 | sampling techniques. |
| 11 | (e) Consultation With Congress.—The Sec- |
| 12 | retary shall consult with the Committee on Education and |
| 13 | Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee |
| 14 | on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate concerning |
| 15 | the design of the report described in this section. |
| 16 | SEC. 109. LOCAL ADVISORY GROUP. |
| 17 | (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Any rural eligible local edu- |
| 18 | cational agency desiring to receive an allotment under this |
| 19 | Act shall form a local advisory group. |
| 20 | (b) Composition.— |
| 21 | (1) IN GENERAL.—Each local advisory group |
| 22 | described in subsection (a) shall be composed of rep- |
| 23 | resentatives of groups such as— |
| 24 | (A) local government agencies; |
| 25 | (B) community-based organizations; |

| 1 | (C) service providers; |
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| 2 | (D) teachers; |
| 3 | (E) parents; |
| 4 | (F) colleges and universities; |
| 5 | (G) businesses; |
| 6 | (H) principals, other school administrators |
| 7 | and school personnel, including the local voca- |
| 8 | tional education administrator; |
| 9 | (I) counselors, school psychologists and so- |
| 10 | cial workers; |
| 11 | (J) students; |
| 12 | (K) State educational agencies and State |
| 13 | boards of education; |
| 14 | (L) labor; |
| 15 | (M) offices of the Mayor or other rural |
| 16 | government leader; |
| 17 | (N) religious leaders; and |
| 18 | (O) organizations with an interest in im- |
| 19 | proving rural education and expertise in the de- |
| 20 | livery of services needed by the schools selected |
| 21 | to participate in a program assisted under this |
| 22 | Act. |
| 23 | (2) Appointment.—The superintendent of |
| 24 | schools and the head of the head of the rural eligible |
| 25 | local educational agency applying for funds under |

- this title shall appoint the members of the local advi-sory group, in consultation with teachers from the rural eligible local educational agency and the teacher's local bargaining agent where one exists. The local advisory group may contain as many members as is necessary to ensure a comprehensive commu-nity-wide program to improve education in the schools served by the rural eligible local educational agency.
 - (3) Representation.—The local advisory group shall be representative of the community and shall be balanced according to the race, ethnicity, native language background, and gender of its members, to the extent practicable.
 - (c) Functions.—The local advisory group shall—
 - (1) advise the rural eligible local educational agency on the design and conduct of a needs assessment for all schools expected to participate in the program assisted under this title;
 - (2) assist in planning for community-wide collaboration in service delivery for students in schools expected to be served by the program assisted under this title;
 - (3) advise the rural eligible local educational agency and the community on how such agency and

| 1 | community can work together to use multiple service |
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| 2 | providers; |
| 3 | (4) advise and assist the rural eligible local edu- |
| 4 | cational agency on the implementation of the pro- |
| 5 | gram assisted under this title and review evaluations |
| 6 | of such program's success; |
| 7 | (5) advise the rural eligible local educational |
| 8 | agency on strategies for increasing parent involve- |
| 9 | ment and the number of school volunteers and role |
| 10 | models in schools; and |
| 11 | (6) review the success of community-based pro- |
| 12 | grams assisted under this title for progress toward |
| 13 | meeting the National Education Goals. |
| 14 | (d) Use of Existing Local Advisory Group.— |
| 15 | To the extent that a rural eligible local educational agency |
| 16 | has established a broadly representative local advisory |
| 17 | group before the date of enactment of this Act that is com- |
| 18 | parable to the local advisory group described in this sec- |
| 19 | tion, such existing local advisory group shall be considered |
| 20 | to be in compliance with the provisions of this section. |
| 21 | TITLE II—SCHOOL BUILDING |
| 22 | REPAIR AND RENOVATION |
| 23 | SEC. 201. PURPOSE; AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS. |
| 24 | (a) Purpose.—It is the purpose of this title to pro- |
| 25 | vide assistance to rural eligible local educational agencies |

- 1 to assist such agencies in building or repairing, and ren-
- 2 ovating instructional facilities in rural schools, including
- 3 but not limited to the appropriate use of telecommuni-
- 4 cations techniques for learning.
- 5 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
- 6 are authorized to be appropriated \$1,000,000,000 for
- 7 1994 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the
- 8 fiscal years 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 to
- 9 carry out the provisions of this title.

10 SEC. 202. ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.

11 (a) ALLOTMENTS.—

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- year, the Secretary shall allot to each State educational agency with an approved application, an amount which bears the same relationship to such funds as the amount all rural eligible local educational agencies with approved applications in the State were allocated under chapter 1 of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in the preceding fiscal year bears to the total amount received under such chapter in such preceding fiscal year by all rural eligible local educational agencies with approved applications in all States.
- 24 (2) STATE ALLOTMENT.—

| 1 | (A) RESERVATION.—From amounts re- |
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| 2 | ceived pursuant to paragraph (1), each State |
| 3 | educational agency may reserve not more than |
| 4 | 1 percent of such amount for administrative ex- |
| 5 | penses. |
| 6 | (B) FORMULA.—From the remainder of |
| 7 | amounts received pursuant to subparagraph (A) |
| 8 | in each fiscal year, each State educational agen- |
| 9 | cy shall allot to each rural eligible local edu- |
| 10 | cational agency within the State with an ap- |
| 11 | proved application an amount determined on |
| 12 | the basis of— |
| 13 | (i) the number of children in the rural |
| 14 | eligible local educational agency between |
| 15 | the ages of 5 and 17 who are members of |
| 16 | families whose income does not exceed the |
| 17 | income official poverty line (as defined by |
| 18 | the Office of Management and Budget), |
| 19 | according to the most recent decennial cen- |
| 20 | sus of the population; and |
| 21 | (ii) the number, age and size of school |
| 22 | buildings used for instructional purposes in |
| 23 | the rural eligible local educational agency. |
| 24 | (b) REALLOTMENT.—Any amounts available for real- |
| 25 | lotment pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) shall be real- |

| 1 | lotted in the same manner as the original allotments were |
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| 2 | made. |
| 3 | SEC. 203. APPLICATION. |
| 4 | (a) STATE APPLICATION.— |
| 5 | (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State educational |
| 6 | agency desiring to receive an allotment in any fiscal |
| 7 | year to carry out the provisions of this title shall |
| 8 | submit to the Secretary an application at such time, |
| 9 | in such manner and accompanied by such informa- |
| 10 | tion as the Secretary reasonably may require. |
| 11 | (2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted |
| 12 | pursuant to paragraph (1) shall— |
| 13 | (A) contain such information as the Sec- |
| 14 | retary may reasonably require in order to make |
| 15 | the allotment described in section $202(a)(1)$ |
| 16 | and |
| 17 | (B) contain such other information and as- |
| 18 | surances as the Secretary determines necessary |
| 19 | to ensure compliance with the provisions of this |
| 20 | title. |
| 21 | (b) Local Application.— |
| 22 | (1) IN GENERAL.—Any rural eligible local edu- |
| 23 | cational agency desiring to receive an allotment to |
| 24 | carry out the provisions of this title shall submit to |

the State educational agency an application at such

| 1 | time, in such manner and accompanied by such in- |
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| 2 | formation as the State educational agency may rea |
| 3 | sonably require. |
| 4 | (2) Duration.—Each application submitted |
| 5 | pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be for a period of |
| 6 | not more than 3 years. |
| 7 | (3) Annual review.—Each application sub- |
| 8 | mitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be subject to |
| 9 | annual review. |
| 10 | (4) Contents.—Each application submitted |
| 11 | pursuant to paragraph (1) shall contain— |
| 12 | (A) an assessment of needs for building re- |
| 13 | pair, renovation and construction; |
| 14 | (B) the name and location of all sites |
| 15 | scheduled for repair, renovation or construction |
| 16 | and a description of the activities planned at |
| 17 | each site; and |
| 18 | (C) a description of accounting procedures |
| 19 | used to assure proper disbursement of Federa |
| 20 | funds. |
| 21 | SEC. 204. REPAIR AND RENOVATION. |
| 22 | Each rural eligible local educational agency receiving |
| 23 | an allotment under section 202(a)(2) shall use 50 percent |
| 24 | of such allotment to conduct programs for— |

| 1 | (1) repair and renovation of school buildings |
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| 2 | used for instruction; |
| 3 | (2) upgrading of and alterations to buildings to |
| 4 | accommodate new instructional technology, including |
| 5 | the installation or improvement of telecommuni- |
| 6 | cations facilities for learning and related tech- |
| 7 | nologies. |
| 8 | (3) installation or upgrading of school security |
| 9 | and communications systems; |
| 10 | (4) construction of new buildings that will serve |
| 11 | to replace old facilities that are most cost effectively |
| 12 | torn down rather than renovated; |
| 13 | (5) alterations to buildings to meet special pro- |
| 14 | gram, curricula, or school-site management needs; |
| 15 | (6) alterations to buildings to meet certain spe- |
| 16 | cial population needs, such as the needs of homeless |
| 17 | children, preschool children, and individuals with |
| 18 | disabilities; |
| 19 | (7) alterations to school buildings to enable |
| 20 | such buildings to serve as one-stop family support |
| 2.1 | centers: and |

(8) facilities' costs associated with lengthening

the school day or school year.

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SEC. 205. ENVIRONMENT AND SAFETY.

- 2 Each rural eligible local educational agency receiving
- 3 an allotment under section 202(a)(2) shall use 50 percent
- 4 of such allotment to conduct programs for—
- 5 (1) energy conservation;
- 6 (2) removal or containment of environmentally
- 7 hazardous material;
- 8 (3) meeting the requirements of section 504 of
- 9 the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and
- 10 (4) meeting local, State or Federal laws or reg-
- 11 ulations enacted or promulgated since the initial
- construction of a building related to fire, air, light,
- noise, waste disposal, or building height.
- 14 SEC. 206. WAIVER.
- 15 The State educational agency may waive the 50 per-
- 16 cent requirements described in sections 204 and 205 for
- 17 any rural eligible local educational agency that dem-
- 18 onstrates to the satisfaction of the State educational agen-
- 19 cy a greater need for services described in section 204 or
- 20 205.
- 21 SEC. 207. APPLICATION OF THE DAVIS-BACON ACT.
- 22 All laborers and mechanics employed by contractors
- 23 or subcontractors in any construction, alteration, or re-
- 24 pair, including painting and decorating, of projects, build-
- 25 ings, and works which are federally assisted under this
- 26 title, shall be paid wages at rates not less than those pre-

- 1 vailing on similar construction in the locality as deter-
- 2 mined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the
- 3 Act of March 3, 1931 (commonly known as the Davis-
- 4 Bacon Act), as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a et seq.). The
- 5 Secretary of Labor shall have, with respect to such labor
- 6 standards, the authority and functions set forth in Reor-
- 7 ganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (15 F.R. 3176; 64
- 8 Stat. 1267) and section 2 of the Act of June 1, 1934,
- 9 as amended (48 Stat. 948, as amended; 40 U.S.C.
- 10 276(c)).

11 TITLE III—EVALUATION OF

12 **RESULTS**

- 13 SEC. 301. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
- 14 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
- 15 as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1994,
- 16 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, and 2000 to carry out the
- 17 provisions of this title.
- 18 SEC. 302. ESTABLISHMENT; OPERATION; USES OF FUNDS.
- 19 (a) Establishment.—From amounts appropriated
- 20 pursuant to the authority of section 301, the Secretary
- 21 shall establish for each region a center to be known as
- 22 the "National Rural Regional Education Research Cen-
- 23 ter" (hereafter in this title referred to as the "Center").
- 24 (b) Operation.—Each Center shall be operated by
- 25 the regional educational laboratory that is located in the

| 1 | region in which the Center is located and supported by |
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| 2 | the Secretary pursuant to section $405(d)(4)(A)$ of the |
| 3 | General Education Provisions Act. |
| 4 | (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Each Center shall— |
| 5 | (1) conduct independent research in rural edu- |
| 6 | cation and distance learning technologies; |
| 7 | (2) evaluate the progress of rural schools receive |
| 8 | ing funds under title I of this Act toward meeting |
| 9 | the National Education Goals; |
| 10 | (3) serve as clearinghouses on rural education |
| 11 | research findings, policies, and practices; |
| 12 | (4) develop measurements of progress of rura |
| 13 | schools; |
| 14 | (5) disseminate results of evaluations and re- |
| 15 | search on rural schools to other Centers and rura |
| 16 | school district teachers and parents; |
| 17 | (6) develop collaborative arrangements and con- |
| 18 | sortia among rural schools in each region to conduct |
| 19 | joint research and evaluation activities; |
| 20 | (7) replicate successful models and program ap- |
| 21 | proaches in rural schools; |
| 22 | (8) provide technical assistance and outreach |
| 23 | services for rural schools in each region; |
| 24 | (9) provide staff training; and |

| 1 | (10) develop curricula to assist rural schools in |
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| 2 | moving toward meeting the National Education |
| 3 | Goals. |
| 4 | SEC. 303. LOCAL RURAL SCHOOL EVALUATION. |
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| 5 | From the amount appropriated pursuant to the au- |
| | thority of section 301 or otherwise made available to carry |
| 7 | out the provisions of this title in any fiscal year, each Cen- |
| 8 | ter shall reserve 25 percent of such funds to award direct |
| 9 | grants to rural eligible local educational agencies within |
| 10 | the region served by such Center and which are participat- |
| 11 | ing in a program assisted under title I to conduct local |
| 12 | school district research and evaluation of efforts toward |
| 13 | meeting the National Education Goals. |
| 14 | SEC. 304. LOCAL APPLICATIONS. |
| 15 | Any rural eligible local educational agency desiring |
| 16 | to receive a grant under this title shall— |
| 17 | (1) submit an application to the Center; |
| 18 | (2) describe in such application the research |
| 19 | and evaluation activities for measuring progress on |
| 20 | the National Education Goals; |
| 21 | (3) consult with local universities, research in- |
| 22 | stitutes, and other rural groups in developing a local |
| 23 | research and evaluation application; and |
| 24 | (4) describe capacities for conducting evalua- |
| 25 | tions with funds provided under this title |

| 1 | TITLE IV—GENERAL |
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| 2 | PROVISIONS |
| 3 | SEC. 401. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON RURAL SCHOOLS. |
| 4 | (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the |
| 5 | Interagency Council on Rural Schools (hereafter in this |
| 6 | section referred to as the "Council". |
| 7 | (b) Composition.— |
| 8 | (1) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall consist |
| 9 | of— |
| 10 | (A) the Secretary of Education, who shall |
| 11 | serve as Chairperson of the Council; |
| 12 | (B) the Secretary of Labor; |
| 13 | (C) the Secretary of Health and Human |
| 14 | Services; |
| 15 | (D) the Secretary of Agriculture; |
| 16 | (E) the Secretary of Energy; |
| 17 | (F) the Secretary of Commerce; |
| 18 | (G) the Director of the Environmental |
| 19 | Protection Agency; |
| 20 | (H) the Director of the Commission on |
| 21 | Civil Rights; |
| 22 | (I) the Chairperson of the Advisory Com- |
| 23 | mission on Intergovernmental Relations; |
| 24 | (J) the Chairperson of the National En- |
| 25 | dowment on the Arts and the Humanities; |

| 1 | (K) the Director of the National Science |
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| 2 | Foundation; and |
| 3 | (L) such other officers of the Federal Gov- |
| 4 | ernment as may be designated by the President |
| 5 | or the Chairperson of the Council to serve |
| 6 | wherever matters within the jurisdiction of the |
| 7 | agency headed by such an officer are to be con- |
| 8 | sidered by the Council. |
| 9 | (2) REPRESENTATION.—Each individual de- |
| 10 | scribed in paragraph (1) may designate a person to |
| 11 | represent such individual on the Council. |
| 12 | (3) DURATION.—Each member shall be ap- |
| 13 | pointed for as long as such member serves as the |
| 14 | head of the appropriate department or agency. |
| 15 | (4) Principal advisor.—The Chairperson of |
| 16 | the Council shall be the President's principal advisor |
| 17 | on rural schools. |
| 18 | (c) QUORUM.—Seven members of the Council shall |
| 19 | constitute a quorum for the purposes of transmitting rec- |
| 20 | ommendations and proposals to the President, but a lesser |
| 21 | number may meet for other reasons. |
| 22 | (d) Meetings.—The Council shall meet at least 2 |
| 23 | times each year. When a Council member is unable to at- |
| 24 | tend a meeting, the Council member shall appoint an ap- |
| 25 | propriate Assistant Secretary or an equivalent individual |

- 1 from the department or agency of the member to represent2 the member for that meeting.
 - (e) DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.—The Council shall—
 - (1) review programs and activities conducted by each department or agency represented on the Council to determine the effects of such programs and activities on the ability of rural schools to meet National Education Goals;
 - (2) track progress of rural schools in meeting National Education Goals;
 - (3) solicit information and advice from experts in rural education and representatives of rural schools, including representatives from rural post-secondary education, on how the Federal Government may improve the programs and activities of the Federal Government which serve rural school students;
 - (4) review regulations across various departments or agencies of the Federal Government for duplication or contradiction;
 - (5) issue an annual report to Congress and the President on the progress rural schools are making in meeting the National Education Goals, and on how Congress might change Federal programs to

| 1 | improve the effectiveness of such programs in rural |
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| 2 | schools; |
| 3 | (6) review and make recommendations regard- |
| 4 | ing ways to improve or streamline various Federal |
| 5 | data collection activities in rural schools; and |
| 6 | (7) conduct such research as may be helpful to |
| 7 | rural school practitioners at the elementary, second- |
| 8 | ary and postsecondary level in improving the per- |
| 9 | formance of students attending rural schools. |
| 10 | SEC. 402. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON RURAL EDU- |
| 11 | CATION. |
| 12 | (a) Authorization To Call Conference.— |
| 13 | (1) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized |
| 14 | to call and conduct a White House Conference on |
| 15 | Rural Education (hereafter in this section referred |
| 16 | to as the "Conference"). |
| 17 | (2) Special rule.—For the purpose of this |
| 18 | section the term "Conference" means the Conference |
| 19 | on Rural Education. |
| 20 | (3) DATE.—The Conference described in para- |
| 21 | graph (2) shall be held not earlier than November |
| 22 | 1, 1994, and not later than October 30, 1996. |
| 23 | (4) Purpose.—The purposes of the Conference |
| 24 | shall be to— |

| 1 | (A) develop recommendations and strate- |
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| 2 | gies for the improvement of rural education; |
| 3 | (B) marshal the forces of the private sec- |
| 4 | tor, governmental agencies at all levels, parents, |
| 5 | teachers, communities, and education officials |
| 6 | to assist rural schools in achieving National |
| 7 | Education Goals, and make recommendations |
| 8 | on the roles rural public schools can play to as- |
| 9 | sist with local rural community economic revi- |
| 10 | talization; and |
| 11 | (C) conduct the initial planning for a per- |
| 12 | manent national commission on rural education. |
| 13 | (b) Composition of Conference.— |
| 14 | (1) In General.—The Conference shall be |
| 15 | composed of— |
| 16 | (A) representatives of eligible public school |
| 17 | systems, including members of the governing |
| 18 | body of local educational agencies, school super- |
| 19 | intendents and classroom teachers; |
| 20 | (B) representatives of the Congress, the |
| 21 | Department of Education and other Federal |
| 22 | agencies; |
| 23 | (C) State elected officials and representa- |
| 24 | tives from State educational agencies; |

- 1 (D) individuals with special knowledge of 2 and expertise in rural education, including indi-3 viduals involved with rural postsecondary edu-4 cation; and
 - (E) individuals with special knowledge of and expertise in rural business.
 - (2) Selection.—The President shall select one-third of the participants of the Conference, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall select one-third of such participants, and the majority leader of the Senate shall select the remaining one-third of such participants.
 - (3) Representation.—In selecting the participants of the Conference the President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the majority leader of the Senate shall ensure that the participants are as representative of the ethnic, racial, and language diversity of rural areas as is practicable.

(c) Reports.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The final reports of the Conference, containing such findings and recommendations as may be made by the Conference, shall be submitted to the President not later than 120 days following the termination of the Conference. The final reports shall be made public and,

- within 90 days after receipt by the President, transmitted to the Congress together with a statement of the President containing recommendations for implementing the reports.
- 5 (2) Publication and distribute Conference is authorized to publish and distribute the reports described in this section. Copies of the reports shall be provided to the Federal depository libraries and made available to local rural school leaders and teachers.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996 such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 16 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available 17 pursuant to the authority of paragraph (1) shall re-18 main available until expended.

19 SEC. 403. FEDERAL FUNDS TO SUPPLEMENT NOT SUP-

- 20 **PLANT NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.**
- A rural eligible local educational agency may use funds received under this Act only to supplement and, to the extent practicable, increase the level of funds that would, in the absence of such Federal funds, be made

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- students participating in activities assisted under this Act
- and in no such case may such funds be used to supplant
- funds from non-Federal sources.
- SEC. 404. DEFINITIONS.
- 5 Except as otherwise provided, for the purposes of this
- 6 Act—

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7 (1) the term "community-based organization" means a private nonprofit organization which is rep-8 9 resentative of a community or significant segments of a community and which has a proven record of 10 11 providing effective educational or related services to 12

individuals in the community;

- (2) the term "community as school concept" means the mutual sharing of the local public school's and the local community's human, financial, technical, and environmental resources to help meet each others needs:
- (3) the term "elementary school" has the meaning given to such term by section 1471(8) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965;
- (4) the term "institution of higher education" has the meaning given to such term in section 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965;
- (5) the term "local educational agency" has the 24 25 meaning given to such term in section 1471(12) of

| 1 | the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of |
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| 2 | 1965, and includes a rural eligible local educational |
| 3 | agency; |
| 4 | (6) the term "poverty level" means the criteria |
| 5 | of poverty used by the Bureau of Census in compil- |
| 6 | ing the most recent decennial census for a family of |
| 7 | 4 in such form as those criteria have been updated |
| 8 | by increases in the Consumer Price Index for Al |
| 9 | Rural Consumers; |
| 10 | (7) the term ''rural eligible local educational |
| 11 | agency" means a local educational agency— |
| 12 | (A)(i) in which at least 15 percent of the |
| 13 | children enrolled in the schools served by such |
| 14 | agency are eligible to be counted under section |
| 15 | 1005 of the Elementary and Secondary Edu- |
| 16 | cation Act of 1965; and |
| 17 | (ii) which is not in a metropolitan statis- |
| 18 | tical area; or |
| 19 | (B) in which the total enrollment in the |
| 20 | schools served by such agency is less than 2,500 |
| 21 | students and that does not serve schools located |
| 22 | in a metropolitan statistical area; and |
| 23 | (C) the term "secondary school" has the |
| 24 | same meaning given to such term by section |

| 1 | 1471(21) of the Elementary and Secondary |
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| 2 | Education Act of 1965; |
| 3 | (8) the term "Secretary", except as otherwise |
| 4 | provided, means the Secretary of Education; |
| 5 | (9) the term "State" means each of the several |
| 6 | States, but does not include the District of Colum- |
| 7 | bia, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of |
| 8 | Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, the |
| 9 | Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, |
| 10 | the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated |
| 11 | States of Micronesia, and Palau; and |
| 12 | (10) the term "State educational agency" has |
| 13 | the meaning given to such term in section 1471(23) |
| 14 | of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of |
| 15 | 1965. |

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